

1990

Substance Abuse Studies Certificate Program

Nova University

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SUBSTANCE ABUSE STUDIES

Certificate Program



This certificate program offers college credit for Substance Abuse Studies courses. Nova has been approved as a single source provider by the Certification Board for Addiction Professionals of Florida and as a Continuing Education provider for the Board of Nursing and other professional groups.

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

The courses offered in the Substance Abuse Studies Program are designed to provide a broad base of knowledge useful to those who are interested in the field of chemical dependency. There are several avenues through which you may participate in this program:

Individual Courses and Workshops

These will be scheduled throughout the year and many offer Continuing Education credit approved for various professional groups.

Certificate in Substance Abuse Studies

You can earn this Certificate by successfully completing the six core courses in the Substance Abuse Studies curriculum.

Certificate in Substance Abuse Treatment

This certificate can be earned by completing the six core courses in the Substance Abuse Studies curriculum, plus two advanced counseling courses and a practicum placement. (The practicum placement may be waived if you have significant work experience in the field of chemical dependency.)

College Credit

You can earn three college credits for successful completion of each Substance Abuse Studies course --a total of 18 credits for the Certificate in Substance Abuse Studies. To qualify for college credit you must have earned either a high school diploma or the GED.

Format

The courses in this program are offered in a weekend format that is designed to meet the needs of the working adult. You may begin at any time during the year and can expect to complete the basic certification program within 12 months.

CURRICULUM IN SUBSTANCE ABUSE STUDIES: CORE COURSES

I. Drug Prevention and Education

This course covers the classification and identification of drugs, as well as the behavioral criteria for recognizing alcohol and drug abuse. Specific attention is paid to prevention, education, and intervention strategies within the family, school, and the community. Methods for evaluating the effectiveness of these strategies are also examined. This course is designed to be of immediate practical use to parents, teachers, and others interested in effective drug prevention and education.

II. Substance Abuse and the Family

Few families are fortunate enough to escape the pervasive, frequently devastating, results of substance abuse. Victims of substance abuse are frequently innocent non-users. This course examines the family problems related to the abuse of alcohol and other psychoactive substances, as well as changes in family functioning that accompany chemical dependency. You will gain an appreciation of the concept of substance abuse as a family illness and learn the roles of the family in the maintenance of the addiction and in the intervention and recovery process.

III. Substance Abuse in Business and Industry

The scope and cost of alcohol and other drug related problems in American business and industry are presented in this course. You will learn the historical and current strategies for dealing with these problems. Specific attention in this course will be given to Employee Assistance Programs and the roles of supervisors and managers in EAPs. Strategies for formulating company alcohol and drug policies, implementing effective educational and intervention programs, and training managers and supervisors to deal with these issues will also be examined.

IV. The Psychology and Physiology of Substance Abuse

This course will provide you with a sound introduction to the pharmacology and physiology of alcohol and other drug use and the psychological effects of psychoactive drugs. It will provide you with an understanding of the nature of addictions and of the disease concept, the signs and symptoms of substance abuse, diagnostic criteria for evaluating chemical dependency, the physical and psychiatric disorders related to substance abuse, and the stages of recovery from chemical dependency.

V. Rehabilitation Strategies for Substance Abuse

This course focuses upon the various types of therapeutic approaches that may be successfully employed in the treatment of substance abuse problems and the types of facilities available for such treatment. Treatment planning and coordination, ethical issues related to treatment, and the application of specific treatment techniques will be covered. You will also examine the special needs of women, adolescents, and minorities within the rehabilitation process.

VI. Self-Help Groups

This course examines the history of the self-help group movement in the U.S. You will gain a better understanding of the role of these groups in helping people deal with life problems. You will be exposed to the structure, traditions, and the programs of Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as the approaches employed by several other major mutual support organizations. This course focuses on ways in which the self-help groups and the professional community can work together to achieve common goals.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid is available to qualified students either enrolled for credit in the eight-course Substance Abuse Treatment certificate program or working toward a college degree.

WHAT FORMER STUDENTS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT NOVA'S PROGRAM:

The education and information provided by the Nova College Substance Abuse Certificate Program has been invaluable to me as a member of the Broward County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services Division Advisory Board. The courses create a solid foundation applicable to both personal and professional life.

- Kimberly Durham-Nacarato

In addition to receiving a Certificate in Substance Abuse Studies, I developed an open-minded/open-ended perspective of chemical dependency therapy. These courses presented me with an opportunity to meet with other professionals and to pool our resources, as well as our professional opportunities. Guest speakers introduced various support groups and gave me vast amounts of information and hand-outs. These practical resources aid me as a counselor to better help clients on their journey toward a drug-free, mentally healthy lifestyle.

- Jeanne Staivisky, M.S., Supervisor / Counselor
Adult and Adolescent Outpatient Program
The Starting Place, Inc.

As Director of Counseling at the College of Boca Raton, I have found my training in the Substance Abuse Studies Program at Nova University very beneficial to my position. The wealth of resource material provided through Nova's program has enabled me to assist students and staff in accessing the necessary counseling and treatment services from community and private agencies, as well as allowing me to establish an on-going course in substance abuse.

- Melinda A. Shoemaker, Director of Counseling
College of Boca Raton

The Substance Abuse Studies Program was invaluable in helping me gain an understanding of both the physiological and psychological aspect of addiction. I acquired a better understanding of the biochemical mechanisms, dysfunctional family system, and individual family roles surrounding substance abuse.

- John Levi

I feel that Nova's Substance Abuse Studies Program has greatly helped me, both as a nurse and as an administrator in the field of chemical dependency. The courses enhanced my clinical skill and increased my knowledge, and I would highly recommend them to anyone in the health care field.

- Linda Snyder, R.N., C.A.A.P.
Director, Stepping Stones

NOVA COLLEGE

As part of Nova University, Nova College is known for its innovative educational mission. It is not just another college. It was selected in 1981 as one of 18 universities and colleges in the country to participate in a three-year project at the University of Chicago on Quality in Non-Traditional Education. Nova College has a ten-year history of providing career development education to adults, a focus that only recently has become a predominant concern of colleges throughout the nation.

Through programs that combine a mastery of traditionally important academic skills with the competencies needed to perform successfully in a changing world, Nova College has achieved an image that reflects the future. Unlike many colleges, Nova is committed to the idea that institutions are not monuments; rather they are vehicles designed and redesigned to meet the personal, social, and career needs of people in a changing society.

For further information concerning this program, please contact:

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